

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the first paragraph of page 4 with the following amended paragraph:

According to another aspect of the invention, the application of a brake includes over-excitation operation. The over-excitation operation includes applying, for a first period, voltage to the electromagnet corresponding to one of the end positions from which the armature is released. Adjusting the application period of voltage and the magnitude of the applied voltage allows the braking force to be adjusted easily. In one embodiment of the invention, the first period is determined according to a load condition of the armature.